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SUBJECT: KUWAIT MEDIA REACTION - SYRIA, ISRAEL, AND LEBANON

Block Quotes

Sunday, September 3, 2006

-- On the front page of pro-government Arabic daily Al-Seyassah and under the title "The Lie and Denial Regime" Editor-in-chief Ahmed Al-Jarallah penned (9/3):

"Syrian President Dr. Bashar Al-Assad recently promised UN Secretary General Kofi Annan to redraw Syria's borders with Lebanon, exchange diplomatic representatives, and help patrol the borders between the two countries to end the smuggling of weapons to Hezbollah. Al-Assad also pledged to comply with UN resolution 1701. However, the Syrian President's promises vanished into thin air when the Information Minister of Syria said, 'Al-Assad's pledges will be implemented under suitable circumstance.' This means Al-Assad has two faces and speaks two languages."

-- "Does Israel Want Peace?" was the title of Yakoub Yousef Al-Omar's piece in progressive Arabic daily Al-Qabas in which he contended (9/3):

"The plain clear truth should make Arab leaders realize Zionists' aspirations to acquire Arab lands. Thus they must present a unified position, work among themselves and not depend on others to present to the international community an Arab plan for peace. And if their plan were rejected by Israel or any of its supporters, then they should then move to the next stage of conflict, be it political or economic."

-- Under the title "Did the Master Make a Mistake?" Salah Al-Fadly questioned in moderate Arabic daily AlRai Al-Aam (9/3):

"What does Mr. Hassan Nasrallah's confession of miscalculation mean? Is it a declaration of losing? Or is it an expression of moral responsibility towards the victims of the war in answer to those who accuse Hezbollah of not caring about people killed and houses destroyed saying that it was simply carrying out Iranian or Syrian orders?"

-- Conservative Dr. Sajed Al-Abdali, M.D. and political activist penned in moderate Arabic daily Al-Rai Al-Aam under the title "The Master's Confession" (9/3):

"Mr. Hassan did not confess to making a mistake, as some are saying. He simply reminded us of the reality that the Arab and Islamic world lacks leaders of such honesty."

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